

BLM News

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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NATIONAL TRAILS DAY HIKE PLANNED

National Trails Day will be celebrated in Elko County on June 3, 2006, with a day hike of the Greenhorn Cutoff of the California National Historic Trail. The hike is free and open to the public, but pre-registration is **required**.

“The hike is being hosted by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Elko Field Office in cooperation with the Humboldt Highroads group,” said BLM Recreation Manager Steve Dondero. “The hike will begin at 8:00 a.m. from the old Highway 40, about 1.5 miles west of the Maggie Creek Ranch.”

“Participants will be hiking along the Greenhorn Cutoff of the California National Historic Trail,” Dondero continued. “This route was used by emigrants traveling to California 1849-1870 if they were early in the summer and the Humboldt River was running too high to safely cross. Participants will be walking in the emigrant’s footsteps. The hike will range from moderate to easy; however it will be approximately 8 miles long. The pace will be slow at 1-1.5 miles per hour. Weather conditions can range from warm (80 degrees +) and dry to cool and damp at this time of the year, so be prepared for adverse conditions. Persons not in reasonably good physical condition and young children should not participate.”

“The hike will end in Carlin Canyon at the shuttle vehicles, and after a short interpretive discussion in Carlin Canyon, participants will be shuttled back to their vehicles at the Highway 40 parking area. People should bring sunscreen, light waterproof coat, lunch, and water. One quart of cold water per person will be located about midway on the hike route. Wear sturdy light hiking boots. Tennis shoes and light shoes are strongly discouraged,” Dondero added.

All participants **must pre-register** for the hike so that the logistics of providing shuttle and water can be accommodated. To register, email sdondero@blm.gov, or write Steve Dondero, BLM Elko Field Office, 3900 E. Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801, by May 26, 2006, to assure a spot on the hike. Participation will be limited to the first 25 people signing up.

Directions to the hike starting point are: from Elko, Nevada; drive 10 miles west on Interstate 80 to the Hunter Exit (Exit 292). Cross over to the south side of I-80, and continue west on the paved frontage road (old Highway 40) approximately 1.5 miles. A "Park Here" sign will be present. All vehicles will park here to begin the hike. Participants will be shuttled back to this location at the end of the hike.

The Humboldt Highroads group is an organization of local trail enthusiasts who enjoy exploring and sharing the stories of the California Historic Trail with others. In addition to this hiking event, the Humboldt Highroads are also planning several driving tours this summer and fall along the Trail. For more information about the Humboldt Highroads group, membership, and about upcoming tours, contact Beth Woodbury at 738-5538.

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